

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 065240

43

ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 COME-00 LAB-04 AGR-05

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, RP

SUBJECT: TEXTILES - BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS

GENEVA FOR PHELAN

1. US AND GOP OFFICIALS COMPLETED THREE DAYS OF TEXTILE CONSULTATIONS MARCH 12. ATMOSPHERE THROUGHOUT CONSULTATIONS WAS VERY CORDIAL.

2. US DEL DISCUSSED GENERAL FORMULA OF ALL FIBER AGREEMENT, I.E., BASE LEVEL WHICH CONSISTS OF CURRENT COTTON AGREEMENT LEVELS, PLUS CURRENT TRADE LEVELS IN WOOL AND MAN-MADE FIBERS. GOP DELEGATION CLAIMED SURPRISE TO HEAR THAT US INTENTION WAS TO DISCUSS NEW ALL-FIBER BILATERAL. HOWEVER, ALL MEMBERS ON US SIDE RECOGNIZED THAT THIS WAS MERE
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PAGE 02 STATE 065240

NEGOTIATING TACTIC, AND THAT GOP HAD BEEN INFORMED BY

EMBASSY OF US INTENTIONS. GOP DEL ALSO CLAIMED TO HAVE NO DATA ON MAN-MADE FIBER OR WOOL EXPORTS, AND SO US DEL THOUGHT IT POINTLESS TO PRESS ISSUE AT THIS TIME. DISCUSSIONS WERE CONFINED TO POSSIBLE GENERAL FRAMEWORK OF NEW MULTIFIBER AGREEMENT, TOGETHER WITH COMPARISON OF STATISTICS UNDER PRESENT COTTON AGREEMENT.

3. CONSULTATIONS CONCLUDED WITH AGREEMENT TO MEET AGAIN IN MANILA, INITIALLY SET FOR JUNE 2. SINCE THEN, WE HAVE LEARNED THAT SEVERAL MEMBERS OF GOP DEL WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR THAT DATE, AND WE MAY HAVE PROBLEMS WITH

THAT DATE ALSO. THEREFORE, WE WILL BE PROPOSING ALTERNATIVE DATES IN NEAR FUTURE.

4. IN DISCUSSIONS OF GENERAL FRAMEWORK, GOP DEL STATED THAT THEIR LEGAL OFFICE HAD SOME PROBLEMS WITH REFERENCE ONLY TO ARTICLE 2, PARA 2(II) OF MFA IN EMBASSY'S AIDE-MEMOIRE PROPOSING CONSULTATIONS. THEREFORE, WHEN DEPARTMENT PROPOSES NEW DATES FOR SECOND ROUND, EMBASSY'S AIDE-MEMOIRE SHOULD ALSO REFER TO ARTICLE 4 OF MFA. INGERSOLL

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